CLAIMS

What is claimed:

1. A method for partitioning processing responsibilities for the processing or generation of data messages into components comprising the computer-implemented steps of:
 a. Define a BizDocument which defines a data message;
 b. Provide for the ability for Client systems to request a specific BizDocument;
 c. Upon receipt of a request for a BizDocument, read the BizDocument into an attached memory, perform processing on each element within the BizDocument according to a predefined computer language;
 d. Send the resulting contents of the attached memory to the requesting Client system.
2. The method of Claim 1 wherein the method further comprises the steps of providing the capability to define data sets called BizComponents associated to one or more elements of a message, a BizComponent having a definition that is stored in a separate file or module, or generated by some other process, and the capability of processing a BizComponent during the processing of elements within the BizDocument.
3. The method of Claim 2 wherein a BizComponent may include the definition of parameters for which the calling BizDocument or Client will provide actual values.
4. The method of Claim 3 wherein a BizComponent may accept a set of elements as input and may provide a set of elements as output.
5. The method of Claim 4 wherein a BizComponent may interact with a Server system, or other BizComponent, or other BizDocument to transfer data to or from that Server system.
6. The method of Claim 5 wherein a BizComponent may transform data between the required format of the Server system with which it interacts, and the desired format of a message;
7. The method of Claim 6 wherein a BizComponent may contain processing instructions which are processed according to a predefined computer language.
8. The method of Claim 7 wherein a BizComponent may be considered to belong to a class of BizComponents, and a computer program or code module designed to

process BizComponents in that class may be loaded to process the BizComponent.

9. The method of Claim 8 wherein the method further comprises the steps of providing the capability for a BizComponent to access a Server system through an intermediate entity called a BizDriver, a BizDriver having a definition stored in a separate file or module, or generated by some other process.
10. The method of Claim 9 wherein a BizDriver may include the definition of parameters for which the calling BizComponent will provide actual values.
11. The method of Claim 10 wherein a BizDriver may accept a set of elements as input and may provide a set of elements as output.
12. The method of Claim 11 wherein a BizDriver may interact with a Server system, to transfer data to or from that Server system.
13. The method of Claim 12 wherein a BizDriver may contain processing instructions which are processed according to a predefined computer language.
14. The method of Claim 13 wherein a BizDriver may be considered to belong to a class of BizDrivers, and a computer program or code module designed to process BizDrivers in that class may be loaded to process the BizComponent.
15. The method of Claim 14 wherein the format of a BizDocument, BizComponent, and BizDriver may be Extensible Markup Language (XML).
16. The method of Claim 15 wherein a BizDocument may include the definition of parameters for which the calling Client will provide actual values.
17. The method of Claim 16 wherein a BizDocument may accept a set of elements as input and may provide a set of elements as output.
18. The method of Claim 17 wherein a BizDocument may contain processing instructions which are processed according to a predefined computer language.